

United States District Court
Southern District of Texas

ENTERED

May 31, 2024

Nathan Ochsner, Clerk

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
HOUSTON DIVISION**

**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE
COMMISSION,**

Plaintiff,

v.

**CHRISTOPHER R. BENTLEY and
BELLATORUM RESOURCES, LLC,**

Defendants.

Cause No.: 4:22-cv-2722

**AGREED FINAL JUDGMENT AS TO CHRISTOPHER R. BENTLEY
AND BELLATORUM RESOURCES, LLC**

The Securities and Exchange Commission filed a Complaint and Defendants Christopher R. Bentley (“Bentley”) and Bellatorum Resources, LLC (“Bellatorum”) (together, “Defendants”): entered a general appearance; consented to the Court’s jurisdiction over Defendants and the subject matter of this action; consented to the entry of this Final Judgment (“Judgment”); waived findings of fact and conclusions of law; and waived any right to appeal from this Judgment. Accordingly:

I.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that Defendants are permanently restrained and enjoined from violating, directly or indirectly, Section 10(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “Exchange Act”) [15 U.S.C. § 78j(b)] and Rule 10b-5 promulgated thereunder [17 C.F.R. § 240.10b-5], by using any means or instrumentality of interstate commerce, or of the mails, or of any facility of any national securities exchange, in connection with the purchase or sale of any security:

- (a) to employ any device, scheme, or artifice to defraud;
- (b) to make any untrue statement of a material fact or to omit to state a material fact necessary in order to make the statements made, in the light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading; or
- (c) to engage in any act, practice, or course of business which operates or would operate as a fraud or deceit upon any person.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that, as provided in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 65(d)(2), the foregoing paragraph also binds the following who receive actual notice of this Judgment by personal service or otherwise: (a) Defendants' officers, agents, servants, employees, and attorneys; and (b) other persons in active concert or participation with Defendants or with anyone described in (a).

II.

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that Defendants are permanently restrained and enjoined from violating Section 17(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 (the "Securities Act") [15 U.S.C. § 77q(a)] in the offer or sale of any security by the use of any means or instruments of transportation or communication in interstate commerce or by use of the mails, directly or indirectly:

- (a) to employ any device, scheme, or artifice to defraud;
- (b) to obtain money or property by means of any untrue statement of a material fact or any omission of a material fact necessary in order to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading; or
- (c) to engage in any transaction, practice, or course of business which operates or would operate as a fraud or deceit upon the purchaser.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that, as provided in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 65(d)(2), the foregoing paragraph also binds the following who receive actual notice of this Judgment by personal service or otherwise: (a) Defendants' officers, agents, servants, employees, and attorneys; and (b) other persons in active concert or participation with Defendants or with anyone described in (a).

III.

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that Defendants are permanently restrained and enjoined from violating Sections 206(1) and 206(2) of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (the "Advisers Act") [15 U.S.C. § 80b-6(1), 80b-6(2)], by the use of the mails or any means or instrumentality of interstate commerce, directly or indirectly:

- (a) to employ any device, scheme, or artifice to defraud any client or prospective client; or
- (b) to engage in any transaction, practice, or course of business which operates as a fraud or deceit upon any client or prospective client.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that, as provided in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 65(d)(2), the foregoing paragraph also binds the following who receive actual notice of this Judgment by personal service or otherwise: (a) Defendants' officers, agents, servants, employees, and attorneys; and (b) other persons in active concert or participation with Defendants or with anyone described in (a).

IV.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that Defendants are liable, jointly and severally, for disgorgement of \$13,131,470, representing net profits gained as a result of the conduct alleged in the Complaint, together with prejudgment interest thereon in the

amount of \$963,727.07, for a total of \$14,095,197.07. In light of the Judgment and Orders entered in the parallel criminal matter, *United States v. Christopher Russell Bentley*, Crim. No. 4:22-cr-400 (S.D. Tex. [Houston]), wherein Defendant Bentley was sentenced to a 60-month incarceration period followed by three years of supervised release and ordered to pay restitution of \$14,892,047.40, said disgorgement and prejudgment interest obligation is deemed satisfied and no civil penalty will be imposed.

V.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that, pursuant to Section 21(d)(2) of the Exchange Act [15 U.S.C. § 78u(d)(2)] and Section 20(e) of the Securities Act [15 U.S.C. § 77t(e)], Defendant Bentley is prohibited from acting as an officer or director of any issuer that has a class of securities registered pursuant to Section 12 of the Exchange Act [15 U.S.C. § 78l] or that is required to file reports pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act [15 U.S.C. § 78o(d)].

VI.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that the Consent is incorporated herein with the same force and effect as if fully set forth herein, and that Defendants shall comply with all of the undertakings and agreements set forth therein.

VII.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that this Court shall retain jurisdiction of this matter for the purposes of enforcing the terms of this Judgment.

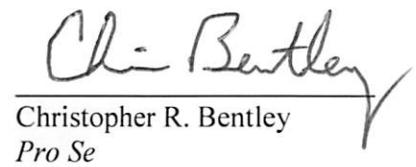
VIII.

There being no just reason for delay, pursuant to Rule 54(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, the Clerk is ordered to enter this Judgment forthwith and without further notice.

Dated: May 30, 2024


Paul P. Engelmayer
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

Agreed to form:



Christopher R. Bentley
Pro Se